



# Eastwood Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2010

## *Your Eastwood Team*

Jeff Ehrhart  
President

Carl VonWald  
Vice President

Jeff Gorman  
PGA Professional

Ryan Bakken  
Assistant Professional

## *Event Coordinators*

Rick Lien

Dave Nelson

## May Event – 2 of 4 Combined Low Net

Our first event of the year is scheduled for Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. The event is a team event with each 4 Man Team using 2 of the 4 scores to create the combined low net. This will be a great opening event allowing every men's club member participating to establish an 18-hole round for handicap purposes. Each player will play his own ball. *Make sure you begin scoring at the correct hole.* After finishing a hole mark each player's gross (actual) score.

**At the scoreboard the golf staff will subtract you handicap holes and add your two net scores together to produce your combined low net score.**

The lowest combined 18-hole net score will be the winners. New members without an established handicap must list their average score when entering the event. Thereafter they must starting entering all of their scores. Any questions should be directed to the Handicap Chairman – Ray Clark - or the golf shop. Remember you can enter the event either by phone or in person at the golf shop desk. Entries will be accepted until Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. This gives the golf staff time to create the evenly matched teams.

Everyone must make it to the course with enough time to find your team and get to your designated holes. **THIS WILL BE A 9:00 a.m. SHOTGUN START!!**

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## Eastwood Driving Range

*Open daily from Dawn to Dusk*

*"It always makes a better start when you start warmed up!"*

Mrs. O'Leary, famous Chicago cow owner

## **From the Club President**

Welcome everyone to the 2010 Eastwood Men's Club golf season. I was happy to see so many people at the Ice Breaker, and am looking forward to a great turnout for the May event. Not sure who we have to thank on Jeff Minske's staff for providing the incredible weather so far, but keep up the good work! (Maybe Mr. Ruffensore finally sold his soul for something more than a pint of Ruffensore Red). The course is in great shape; so, I am sure everyone's game is in equally good shape...or soon to be. Again this year we will be hosting fund raising events to build up our capital improvement fund. If you have ideas on projects to improve the course (...sand in bunkers), let the board know. We are always interested in your ideas.

See you on the course,

*Jeff Ehrhart*

## **From the Superintendant**

Welcome to 2010, seems like we were hardly closed at all this year. As the season begins to take shape you should all start to be aware of the changes in the division this year. Mr. Gorman is now the chief at Northern Hills as well the captain here at Eastwood. I will be taking over at Soldiers Field with the retirement of Tom St. George. Tom was at Soldiers for 32 years and knew that golf course inside and out and did an outstanding job. I am thankful that Mike Senjem, who was Tom's assistant, is still at Soldiers. He is a great asset. With Jeff and me now splitting our time at two facilities we may be harder to get a hold of but still welcome ideas, comments, concerns. Just keep trying to communicate with us please.

It looks like the course here at Eastwood came through the winter in really good shape. Conditions are now what we normally see in the middle of May. I have a list of things that I really want to get to this year and at the top of the list am to redo a few bunkers on the front nine this year. We would like to get to all of them this year but do not know if time and funds will allow it. On a priority list I feel that the bunkers on holes number 3, 4 and 7. These projects will begin around the second week of May as the staff returns from school. With Mr. Gorman and I doing double duty I ask for your patience in addressing some issues. We are aware of them and will get to them ASAP. Thank-you for that, I would ask all of you to help those who do not know all of the policies here at Eastwood... Help them to understand where and where not carts should go. Please try to be a steward of the greens and fix your ball mark and any others you may see. This will all be appreciated by all.

I would like to thank all of the guys who showed up on the work day and helped edge the bunkers on #15. For those of you who came, hopefully that gave you a little taste of what bunker maintenance is like. There are only 25 more bunkers to go!

Let's all have a great season and I will see you out on the course.

Jeff Minske

## **Letter from the Club Professional**

Welcome to the 2010 Golf Season! What a wonderful way to start the season with such outstanding spring weather. This really sets up as potentially one of the longest golf seasons in recent memory. Unfortunately I was unable to make the annual Icebreaker meeting due to illness. However, I understand that my assistant did a stellar job in my absence.

As you may know 2010 has brought some unprecedented changes to the city golf scene. Not only will I be managing the facility at Eastwood, I was also asked to take a management role at Northern Hills in assisting Mike Manahan. David Richardson was asked to do the same thing with Soldier's Field and Hadley Creek Golf Learning Center. Our course superintendent, Jeff Minske, will also be overseeing the grounds crew at Soldier's Field. Northern Hills' superintendent Joe Fisher will also be overseeing Hadley Creek. So as you can see it could be a very interesting year and I just ask for your patience. None of these changes would be possible without our tremendous support staffs both inside and out.

My assistant Ryan Bakken just recently tested out of Level II of the PGA's Golf Management Program in mid-March. It shouldn't be long before he is a Class A PGA Professional. Ryan is also playing some great golf right now and looking forward to a successful tournament season.

We have a new member to the golf staff this year, Assistant Professional Jake Dewitz. Jake is just getting his paperwork filed for entry into the PGA's Golf Management Program. Jake comes to us from the Rochester Golf & CC and also played alongside Chris Myhro on the RCTC Golf Team that finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the country in 2009. If you haven't met Jake yet, be sure to introduce yourself next time you are in the shop.

Chris Myhro and Tyler Kostel will also be back this season, albeit in a more limited role. Chris and Tyler are both attending RCTC and have a lot going on in their lives so they will not be working the type of hours they had in past years. However, I am glad to have them back with us again this season.

Our golf shop is once again fully stocked with the latest and greatest in golf merchandise. Please give us a chance to earn your business and meet your golf equipment needs. Anything I or my staff can do to make your golfing experience at Eastwood a better one, please just ask.

Your P.G.A. Professional

Jeff Gorman

### **All Footjoy Men's Shoes:**

**\$39.95**

Hurry in ---they won't last long!

### **2010 Range Options:**

**-\$250 Unlimited Season Pass**  
**-\$40 Punch Card (Save \$15)**  
**-\$5 Large Bucket**

## **From the Assistant Professional**

Greeting fellow golf fanatics! What a great way to start the season with temperatures in the 60's and 70's throughout much of April. I hope you have all had the chance to get out and get the rust off early in the season. I'm glad to be back for my 5<sup>th</sup> season as your Assistant Golf Professional, and am excited about a great upcoming season.

Part of my main task during the Men's Club season is assisting with handicap management. We need to make sure that all members are posting scores accurately. Be sure to post all scores for rounds that are played under the Rules of Golf. The Eastwood Staff will post the Sunday event rounds, but every other round played is to be posted by the player. If you have any questions regarding the handicap system or posting scores, please be sure to ask any of our staff and we will be happy to help you. If I don't have the answer immediately, I can assure you that I will find the answer within a reasonable time frame.

The 64-Man Match Play tournament is full and the board is posted. We will accept registration for the Four-Ball tournament until May 31. For those of you who are not familiar, the Four-Ball tournament is partner best ball in match play format. You and your partner will play another team in an 18-hole match. The lowest net score per hole per team is counted as the team score. Whichever team wins the match will advance to the next round. The loser is eliminated from play. The cost for this event is \$12/team. If you are interested in playing but do not have a partner, please let us know and we should be able to find a one for you.

The Thursday Mini season will start in a few weeks. For those of you that are new to the club, the Thursday Mini's rotate weekly from an individual format to a partner format. If you do not have anyone to play with for these events, just call the shop and we can almost always find you a partner or group of guys to play with. Remember, Thursday tee times can now be made starting on Sunday at 8AM. Be sure to call the shop early so that we can reserve as many of these times as possible for the Men's Club. When you call the shop to set up your Thursday times, be sure to give us each of the names in your group so that we can create cards in advance and try to fill the empty spots with other members. Thanks and good luck to all!

The May event is not far off. For the new members, be sure to arrive by 8:30 Sunday morning to go through the quick registration process. Please stop downstairs to check your starting hole and pay greens fees if necessary. There will also be a check-in upstairs where you can obtain a rules sheet, scorecard, and place a pari-mutual bet if you so desire. The event is a best 2 of 4 net so you should be at your starting hole by 9:00 to meet your team. Good luck and more importantly have fun!

Assistant Golf Professional

Ryan Bakken

# MPGA

## MINNESOTA PUBLIC GOLF ASSOCIATION

### *2010 MPGA Championship Schedule*

- Mid-Am/ILN • May 15 & 16 • Emerald Greens
- Four Ball • June 19 & 20 • Monticello
- Senior Publinks • July 17 & 18 • Highland National
- Junior Publinks • July 20 • Highland National
- Publinks • August 21 & 22 • The Jewel
- Combination • September 18 & 19 • Bunker Hills

Applications available at [www.mpga.net](http://www.mpga.net)

*Eastwood Men's Club has been a member of the MPGA for many years.*

*The \$75 yearly membership fee, allows anyone who belongs to the Men's Club to participate in the tournaments that one would qualify for. For example, you must be 50 years old to play in the Seniors tournament. Tournaments include greens fees for two days and the chance to win merchandise. See how you fair against others in the state. Participate this year!*

# Hard Times:

Studs Terkel has nothing on me...

by

*Red Ruffensore*

Times are tough for everyone. Your handicap has soared out of sight, Handicap Chair Ray Clark has created an ad hoc committee for the sole purpose of investigating your scores and you can't find your receipts. Continental drift and global warming have teamed up to cause every hole on Eastwood's back nine to play up hill and into the wind. Your wife is about to invade the only source of manly solace you have, thinking it would be nice to learn to play golf so she can spend Saturday mornings with you and your friends. The Eastwood Grill ran out of Ruffensore Red Ale.

Life is tough for all of us. Boo Hoo. Get off your ample Aunt Fanny and do something about it. Like Ruffensore. Yeah, I've got the same annoying problems as you. Maybe worse. I still haven't settled my salary dispute with the Eastwood Men's Club: I haven't been paid for this column since its inception in 2001. The worst of it is, this column is my only source of private income, and my government dole is about to expire. So, for all of you nattering Tea Baggers out there, here comes one more potential consequence of your obsessive whining...*No more Ruffensore.*

In the meantime, though, I don't intend to sit back waiting for Hairy Weird and Nancy Pilates to preserve my lifestyle. I have just reached a lucrative book deal with national retailer Barnes Ignoble. My deal with books is to dust the spines of aging "non-sellers" in the store's Rochester location, to wit, my own classic non-seller Golf: What is it Good For?

I am also starting a series of seminars at the Eastwood Grill on alternate Sundays. The seminars are designed to provide you with tools to supplement your income through a variety of alternative practices. The first is aimed at using agriculture as a way to cushion your bank account. Its title is **"Farming: The Government Is Your Most Lucrative Crop"**. Ruffensore Red Ale will available on tap.

*Red Ruffensore*



**RW Hozelshank here:**



Well, I'm back and as fit as ever. The most popular rumor has been that I had a drying out period to get thru; but that just wasn't true. There may have been periods of my life that were more challenged than others, but never due to "strong drink". Most generally it was just "stupid thinking".

I just retired from the course about 3:30 and I can tell you today's round was as fine as ever. The weather was spot on, the companions challenging, the course conditions were excellent for mid-April, and the \$'s were a flutter. It doesn't get any better than that.....I will retire to my villa this evening and relax, all the while enjoying the company of the fairer sex, a good meal, and perhaps a "small beverage" or 2.

Why am I dwelling on this stuff you might ask? It's simple, life is grand and the golf is the frosting on the cake. How quickly we forget that winter needs to be experienced so that we might appreciate summer and golf in all of its sweetness.

I've noticed that the "snowbirds" are starting to return. Frank Taylor, that "golf stud" from the past will be soon gracing our presences. I know he has been working on "the game"; I can only hope that he has been saving his money for future endeavors, whatever they might be. While we're talking about working on our games, have you been working on yours? You're going to need it because there are those among us who have traveled south this winter to play and thereby have affected a moderate increase in their handicaps. Beware, for they are all about us.

RW Hozelshank here: